

## CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

June 18, 2020

## San Francisco Office of Civic Engagement & Immigrant Affairs and Immigrant Rights Commission Statement on SCOTUS DACA Ruling

Today the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the administration's termination of DACA was unlawful.

Since it was created in 2012, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) has provided temporary relief from deportation and work authorization to approximately 800,000 undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as children.

Today, as our nation confronts a global pandemic, the contributions of DACA recipients are more important than ever. An estimated 30,000 DACA recipients are working in health care and other positions on the front lines.

When President Trump announced the rescission of the program in 2017, the Immigrant Rights Commission held a special hearing on September 11, 2017, and the Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs (OCEIA) developed an emergency response plan. Two days after the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments on the legality of DACA, the Immigrant Rights Commission held a special hearing on November 14, 2019 to plan for the future of DACA recipients.

We heard from DACA recipients who were able to improve their careers, health, and finances through DACA. But the program has not only improved the lives of DACA recipients and their families. By allowing recipients to earn higher wages, pay more in taxes, and spur economic growth, DACA has benefited the U.S. economy.

Today, we call on the federal administration not to end DACA, particularly during a global pandemic where many DACA recipients are working on the front lines. We urge Congress to enact permanent solutions for DACA recipients, and work together to develop comprehensive immigration reform for all immigrants.

Finally, we encourage DACA recipients and all immigrants to get screened to see if they qualify for a more permanent form of immigration relief. Many organizations are now working remotely and holding consultations by phone. Find a trusted legal services provider at immigrants.sfgov.org.

The San Francisco Office of Civic Engagement & Immigrant Affairs and the Immigrant Rights Commission stand with DACA recipients and all immigrants. We will continue to fight to ensure that every family has the opportunity to stay together, thrive and contribute.